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UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

January 2016



Firing up the Midlands Engine

On Friday 4 December Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Business visited campus to speak at the Midlands Engine Summit, and also launched a prospectus for the Midlands Engine.

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Ministerial visit

The Secretary of State for Business also visited campus to officially open the University of Birmingham's cryogenic energy storage pilot facility – a technology using 'liquid air' to store and provide power.

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Vice-Chancellor's Open Forum

Thursday 9 February, 12.30–1.30pm,
Bramall Music Building.

The Vice-Chancellor will be interviewed by a guest Chair (TBC) on key issues facing the Higher Education sector and the University.

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NSS Survey

The NSS 2016 opens on Monday 18 January, and this year all University of Birmingham final-year undergraduate students that complete the survey before Monday 29 February will have a chance to win one VIP Graduation Package.

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Distinguished Lecture Series

Thursday 4 February 2016, 6.00–7.00pm.

The Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series presents a keynote talk delivered by the renowned palaeontologist, writer and television presenter, Professor Richard Fortey.

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Chinese New Year Concert

Thursday 28 January, 6.00–7.30pm,
Bramall Music Building.

Pianist Di Xiao, cellist Jiaxin Lloyd Webber and violinist Jiafeng Chen celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Monkey with a fusion of traditional and modern music.

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Educational enhancement

Applications are now open for projects led by staff or students to improve students' educational experience. Further details are on the website.

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UoB Business networking

Join the University of Birmingham Business Club on Tuesday 23 February, 7.30am, for a discussion around the challenges of family businesses.

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Shakespeare Congress 2016

The hosts are pleased to announce sessions at the Congress with the following distinctive Shakespearean figures: Howard Jacobson; Gregory Doran; Dame Harriet Walter; Claire van Kampen and Tom Bird.

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Social media seminar

Are you marketing yourself effectively? This workshop will provide you with useful advice and actionable tips to boost your online profile and engage with the right audience at the right time.

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Transforming HR

Come along to a drop-in session to find out more about the changes taking place in HR. The sessions are on 8 January, 3.00–4.00pm, Howarth (203) and 14 January, 11.30am–12.30pm, Education Building (G33).

New gateway to learning

Library Services has launched the Academic Skills Gateway, providing access to resources on a range of topics, including writing skills, maths support, independent learning and citing sources.

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More news and events...

[News around campus >](#)

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Next edition: 4 February. **Copy deadline:** 27 January.

Email: university-buzz@bham.ac.uk **Website:** intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/buzz

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